

Wilcannia Central School

Cleaton Street

WILCANNIA. 2836

Ph. 08 80 915 801

Fax: 08 80 915 026

###### Ivanhoe Central School

Columbus Street

IVANHOE 2878

Ph: 02 6995 1108

Fax: 02 6995 1290

**Menindee Central School**

Menindee St

MENINDEE, 2879

Ph: 0880914409

Fax: 0880914377

**Sample Course Outline**

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| **Course:** Earth and Environmental Science | **Course No: 15100** |
| 2 units for each of Preliminary and HSC Board Developed Course | **Exclusions:** Senior Science (Preliminary only) |
| **Course Description** Earth and Environmental Science is the study of the planet Earth, its processes and its environment. The Preliminary course develops a knowledge of the physical and chemical features of the environment, the available resources and human impact on Australian environments and the interplay between the internal and external forces that constantly shape the Earth. It increases students’ understanding of these concepts by focusing on the unique nature of the Australian continent, its geology and environments and, in particular, the local environment and the effect of human impact on it. The HSC course builds upon the Preliminary course. It examines the geological, physical and chemical evidence related to the evolution of Australia over time, current pressures and their effects on the Australian environment, and the indicators of environmental ill-health. The options cover a variety of interest areas and draw on increased information and understanding provided by improved technology to examine areas of current research. | |
| **Preliminary Course**  **-**Earth and Environmental Science Skills Module 8.1  **Core Modules**  -Planet Earth and Environment – A Five Thousand  Million Year Journey  -The Local Environment  -Water Issues  -Dynamic Earth | **HSC Course**  **-**Earth and Environmental Science Skills Module 9.1  **Core Modules**  -Tectonic Impacts  -Environments Through Time  -Caring for the Country  **One Option from the following modules:**  -Introduced Species and the Australian Environment  -Organic Geology – A Non-renewable Resource  -Mining and the Australian Environment  -Oceanography |
| **Particular Course Requirements** Each module specifies content which provides opportunities for students to achieve the Earth and Environmental Science skill outcomes. Earth and Environmental Science modules 8.1 (Preliminary) and 9.1 (HSC) provide the skills content that must be addressed within and across each course. Teachers should provide opportunities based on the module content to develop the full range of skills content identified in Earth and Environmental Science skills modules 8.1 and 9.1. The Preliminary course includes field experience in the identification of landforms, rocks and soil types, as well as how biological factors interact to form the local environment. Students will complete a minimum of 80 indicative hours of practical experiences across Preliminary and HSC course time with no less than 35 hours in the HSC course. Practical experiences must include at least one open-ended investigation in both the Preliminary and HSC Courses. | |